

State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Division of Aquatic Resources  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

April 28, 2006

Board of Land  
and Natural Resources  
Honolulu, Hawaii

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A DLNR/UH CONTRACT FOR A BOTTOMFISH  
PROJECT (\$407,940) TO BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN JULY 1, 2006 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007

Submitted herewith for your consideration is a request to enter into a Contract for Professional Services between the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the University of Hawaii (UH). The Contract funds a project titled "Evaluating the Effectiveness of Restricted Fishing Areas for Improving the Bottomfish Fishery in the Main Hawaiian Islands" (Principal Investigator Dr. Christopher Kelley of the UH's Hawaii Undersea Research Laboratory).

The project focuses on monitoring bottomfish populations inside and outside existing and new Restricted Fishing Areas (RFAs) using baited drop cameras and limited experimental fishing surveys. Data collected in this manner will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the State's closed area management plan for this fishery. The production of hatchery reared opakapaka juveniles will be conducted to provide fish for a tag/recapture study off the east coast of Oahu. The project will also provide support for an opakapaka population genetics study.

The Contract is for \$407,940 and runs from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. Funding is from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Sport Fish Restoration Program (\$190,477) and LNR 401 State General Fund (\$217,463). The UH will provide the required federal match component (\$100,000). This project supports research activities essential to the management of our fishery resources. Funds for the project are contained in the Operating Budget for FY 2006-07, although funding may be adjusted according to changes made by the 2006 Legislature and administrative allocations.

RECOMMENDATION:

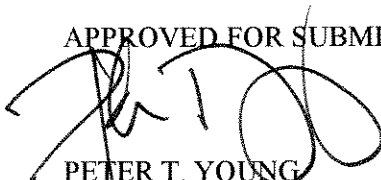
"That the Board authorizes the Chairperson to negotiate and, subject to necessary approvals, enter into a Contract with the University of Hawaii."

Respectfully submitted,



DAN POLHEMUS  
Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



PETER T. YOUNG  
Chairperson